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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 27 June 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

While concerted efforts continue to be undertaken by the Palestinian leadership to reach a ceasefire agreement, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continues to deteriorate as Israel, the occupying Power, continues to pursue its illegal policies and practices against the Palestinian people. In recent days, the occupying Power has, inter alia, continued to launch attacks against civilian areas, including the perpetration of extrajudicial killings, and has continued the illegal practices of demolishing Palestinian homes and of abducting and detaining Palestinians. Such actions not only compound the suffering of the Palestinian people and exacerbate the already grave situation on the ground, but also undermine efforts to achieve a ceasefire and make even minimal progress with regard to implementation of the road map.

Just today, in a military assault on a civilian neighbourhood in Gaza City, the Israeli occupying forces killed four men and wounded more than 15 other Palestinians. Three of the men killed were members of the same family. Following the assault, the occupying forces proceeded to demolish the home of that family. Moreover, on Wednesday, 25 June, the occupying forces attempted to carry out yet another extrajudicial killing when a targeted attack was launched by helicopter gunships near the city of Khan Yunis. The occupying forces fired missiles at two cars in the area, killing a man and a woman and injuring at least 16 people. This was preceded by the extrajudicial killing of a Palestinian man, Abdullah Abdelqader Al-Qawasmeh, four days earlier, on 21 June, in the city of Al-Khalil. In addition, the occupying forces, backed by helicopter gunships, have continued to raid Palestinian cities, towns and villages, conducting house-to-house searches in some areas and rounding up dozens of Palestinians, mostly males, particularly in the areas of Nablus and Al-Khalil. In fact, in the past week, more than 200 Palestinians have been detained in addition to the thousands of Palestinians that continue to be illegally detained in Israeli detention centres and jails under the most abject and inhumane conditions.

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This letter is in follow-up to our previous 167 letters to you regarding the crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 12 June 2003 (A/ES-10/228-S/2003/643), constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by the Israeli occupying force against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my deep regret to inform you that, since my last letter, at least 23 Palestinians, including women and children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs to 2,482 Palestinians. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 June 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Friday, 13 June, through Friday, 27 June 2003)

Friday, 13 June 2003

1. Saleem Saed Salheh (died from wounds sustained on 12 June)
2. Fuad Yousef Al-Ladawi

Saturday, 14 June 2003

Khaled Adnan Kamel Saqr

Sunday, 15 June 2003

1. Ra'fat Ahmed Al-Zaneen
2. Amal Nimr Salem Al-Jarawsheh (8 years old) (died from wounds sustained on 10 June)
3. Nabil Ahmed Yousef Jaradat (died from wounds sustained on 8 June)

Wednesday, 18 June 2003

Hamed Yousef Saleh Haboush

Friday, 20 June 2003

1. Bilal Ragheb Sharab
2. Mahmoud Rajah Abu A'liya (17 years old)
3. Mahmoud Awni Abu A'liya (17 years old)

Saturday, 21 June 2003

1. Hasan Attiya Abu Eideh (died from wounds sustained on 13 June)
2. Abdullah Abdelqader Al-Qawasmeh

Sunday, 22 June 2003

1. Suad Abdelaziz Al-Bahdari
2. Faker Mahmoud Al-Zaneen
3. Khaldoun Hashim Al-Shanbari

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 2,482.

4. Mohammed Abdel Raouf Al-Basouni
5. Rushdi Ahmed Al-Zaneen

Wednesday, 25 June 2003

1. Akram Ali Farhan
2. Nivine Ahmed Aburjileh

Friday, 27 June 2003

1. Zakariya Zaki Al-Saidi
2. Omran Omar Al-Ghool
3. Mohammed Adnan Al-Ghool
4. Mohammed Faraj Abu Attiya